

# **INDIANA DATA AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

## **COMMITTEE MEETING**

September 3, 2008

The IDACS Committee met on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at Indiana State Police District #52 with the following members in attendance:

Major John Clawson  
Major Doug Shelton  
Captain Michael White  
Kelly Dignin  
(Proxy for Jill Schmidt)  
Melissa Farthing

Angela Ferguson  
Don Kottowski  
Brian Maxwell  
Vivian Nowaczewski  
D. Michael Paxton  
John Wall

Advisory members present:

Lieutenant Mark Carnell  
Senior Trooper Eric Garceau  
Senior Trooper Brian Millard

### **OPENING COMMENTS**

Chairman John Clawson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

The Chairman shared that we received from NCIC a "Letter of Commendation" because of our last audit. They were satisfied the issues we had were addressed properly in our response and how we intend to deal with those violations discovered by them. Pointed out in the letter was the fact that we were below the national average in violations. The Chairman asked the letter be included on the IDACS webpage. The Chairman commended everyone that was audited this last time, they were doing a good job and he appreciates the effort and NCIC has noted that we have made some real improvements.

### **CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2008 MEETING**

There were no corrections or additions made to the minutes of the last meeting. A motion was made by Major Shelton and seconded by Melissa Farthing that the minutes be accepted as written. The motion was passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Chairman announced there is a new RFP out, which was talked about in the last meeting. We want to combine the switch and the front-end product and we are in the midst of negotiating that process now. When it is finalized we will let you know. There is the likelihood there will be some enhancements to the current operation.

## **IDACS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPORT**

### **New Agencies/Additional Terminals Approved**

There was one (1) new Terminal Agency and two (2) Mobile Data Agencies approved to go on the system since the last meeting. In keeping with our new procedures, we will no longer list additional terminals approved for existing terminal agencies.

### **Terminal Operators Approved**

After receiving favorable recommendation from the System Coordinator, the Chairman approved forty-two (42) IDACS operators with an arrest record. The decision was based on there being no felony convictions.

### **IDACS Coordinator Report**

Vivian Nowaczewski reported having an update from NCIC on handling terrorist; which will be included in the newsletter. She has a few copies; she could furnish one copy to each agency here. The newsletter should be out in a few weeks.

Also, she reminded about the upcoming Training Conference they are holding September 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division (same training both days). NCIC will be there to give three to four hours of training and it starts at 9:00 a.m.

### **IDACS Security Officer's Reports**

**Sr. Trooper Brian Millard** – He wrote one (1) Notice of Violation to the Fountain County Sheriff's Department for no supporting documentation and running a III for a non-criminal justice agency.

**Sr. Trooper Eric Garceau** – Three (3) verbal warnings were issued to Jennings County RDC to modify an Entry and they needed to work on their Reason Field and Purpose Codes. Indianapolis District #52 had no Case Reports on a couple of Entries and Hancock County Sheriff's Department had an incorrect ORI on a III. All three of these agencies will be audited again in six (6) months.

## **AREA REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS**

### **Area I**

Angela Ferguson – They will have a meeting in October or before the next IDACS Committee meeting. There was a question about Protective Orders with a “no contact” order on them. The officers question as to how to enforce these? Lt. Carnell answered it will make an additional burden on law enforcement officers to actually dig up the terms of the order, before making the arrest, especially in a place like Tippecanoe Superior Court #2 that has issued six (6) of these permitting contact. They will be talking to the Prosecuting Attorney’s Council, but he thinks it will possibly take a change in legislation. It will put a burden on us because in the Miscellaneous Field or somewhere; we will need to make it clear that this particular order permits contact; so the law enforcement officer doesn’t go ahead and make an arrest. Another question they discussed was about a Juvenile they had that was being transferred and escaped and he is not quite 18 years of age. If we have something like this again, when is it alright to run a III on somebody who is almost, or waived as an adult.

### **Area II**

Melissa Farthing – Their next Area Meeting will be held October 1st. at Noon in Huntington. Ms. Farthing will be sending out a notice on the location and directions. She had a question on entering a stolen “In God We Trust” plate regarding what Code to use. Michael Paxton answered to use the “CM” Type Code. There are four (4) commemorative plates on the drop down menu that are covered by “CM”.

### **Area III**

Brian Maxwell – Nothing to report at this time. The fall meeting has not been scheduled.

### **Area IV**

John Wall – He was not able to attend the last meeting because they were dealing with tornado damage, etc., so he reported the spring meeting was held April 11<sup>th</sup> at Franklin PD. There were sixteen (16) Coordinators and four (4) IDACS personnel attending. Several topics were discussed during the meeting and Major Clawson discussed several upcoming projects that are in the works. The meeting was then opened for general discussion. Their fall meeting will probably be the last part of October or first week of November. He will send out an email and put it on the Bulletin Board.

### **Area V**

Kelly Dignin – Jill Schmidt was unable to attend the meeting and Kelly Dignin was filling in for her. They have not had a fall meeting yet, but it will be held in late October, more than likely at District #52. Notification will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

## **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

None

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

None

## AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

There was a suggestion made about sending veteran dispatchers through an IDACS class again, which affects the agencies manpower with them being gone for three (3) days. She suggested a one-day refresher course be available for them. She stated that Deb Cook, IDACS Trainer, came to their agency and provided an overview for some of their people.

Vivian Nowaczewski answered that is already being done, that's why Deb Cook came to their agency. Chairman Clawson added they have Vivian looking into to some remote possibilities, with the price of gas and loss of manpower, like was stated. We are looking how to accommodate agencies from ninety-two (92) counties, within our budget and within agency budgets. We are looking at some technological issues that may provide an opportunity to do some remote training, but we don't know anything yet. Vivian reminded that they also offer User Classes if you can get several people together and be provided an overview that lasts 3 -4 hours.

A problem with Mismatch Records was also brought up. She said she had two (2) examples with her. She corrected the mismatch last year and it has been sent again even though she has where the correction was accepted. Andre' Clark answered the Mismatch problem is a re-occurring problem. It is caused when the IDACS records and the NCIC records are not 100% identical. A space, a period, anything that is different between two records and you get a mismatch every time. We hope when we get the new system it will eliminate the problem. Another problem is with zeros versus "O's".

Also, an inquiry check was run on a sex offender by date of birth and did not get a "hit" on it. She knew it was entered, so she ran it by social security number and got the "hit". Andre' Clark asked if it was entered by the social security, but not birth date. She stated both were listed. Andre' told her he would need to look at it and she said she brought a copy with her.

Due to an inquiry; Michael Paxton responded there has been a long running issue with mobile data systems where they are programmed so the officer can run a plate and the mobile data is supposed to run the registered owners driver history. The problem up to now has been the vehicle registration returns the owner's social security number, the driver history can no longer be run by the social security number, and so they get a "not available". We have some programming underway with both BMV and our switch vendor to get rid of social security numbers on vehicle registrations altogether and replace with the operator license number. A vehicle registration comes back with the registered owner's name and OLN and that should allow the mobile data system to pick up the OLN and run it as an OLN and get the information back. This is in the works, there is some additional programming and testing that needs to be done by the switch vendor and then they can roll that out hopefully, before the end of the year.

It was asked if the Master Query Screen will ever return. Michael Paxton said possibly in the new system, but there were a lot of problems with it, it did not return adequate information. Every type of query on there is available through another screen. When we went to STARS, we intentionally consolidated the Drivers Screen and the Registration Screen so you only have one screen to deal with for each type of information. You should be able to keep those up and split back and forth between them any time you need to. All the other information, such as Criminal History, Articles, etc., there was just too much going on with the one screen and it didn't function properly. You were getting bad data and of course we didn't want that.

The question was asked while re-programming is taking place with the new system, could Gun Permits be returned with the driver's record? Michael answered there were some legal concerns and they were still trying to work it out.

Major Shelton stated they are creating an electronic application and with that all agencies will have access to the web port where we will have all of the firearms licensing information, because it is public record, anybody from the public can request that data be provided. In Dispatch you will need to go to the Internet site to look at it. It will be available to you. I know there is a query screen in IDACS to check the gun permits, the same data will be available on the Internet at the same place where the agencies go for the Crash Reports now; only under Firearms Permits.

There was a question whether they were any closer on Vehicle Color Coding with the BMV? Andre' Clark said they provided BMV all the NCIC Color Codes and Style Codes and we are trying to get them to match that up. We also have a problem, in that, we need to make sure AAMVA that represents all the BMV's, they all need to have the same sheet of music, so that needs to happen also. Bottom line, yes, we know it is a problem. Michael added we have tried to work a step at a time, the License Plate Codes were one of the most difficult and we finally got them to maintain the relationship between NCIC License Type Codes and their License Type Codes. Vehicle Makes will be the next one, then after that we will start with Vehicle Colors.

It was asked about previous names being on the Driver's Record. Michael Paxton said it is now in a "Remarks" area, not like we were used to having.

Captain White said a lot of times while doing upgrades with the current Omnixx client, when they made changes; a lot of times unfortunately, it took some of the things away that you were used to having.

The Chairman, talking about the new RFP, said everything is driven by finances. When we wrote this RFP we included everything; every concern we could imagine that you had or we had. We used the benefit of the last five years and we put in everything we could address. Now as we get back some of the bids, technology can do about anything that you ask for, but there are also a myriad of prices. Some are going to be worth the investment and others we are going to need to say, we don't want to be the first state to pay for the rest of the states. We can build something that is great and has great functionality, but if Indiana pays for it, then everybody else will benefit from it at our expense. We will need to see what we can afford and what we consider to be critical functions, what can we hope for and budget for in the coming years. He thinks they have

done a pretty good job of addressing some of those things; but, we are in the negotiation phase now and we don't know exactly how it is going to fall, but we can tell you we are battling those issues.

Michael Paxton said that as a caveat; realize a lot of your concerns are outside of our hands, especially things like the BMV Code Tables and multiple name responses. They have their own project priorities, their own budgets and we are just a portion of that, so we often have to fight on two fronts to get things accomplished.

Andre' Clark reminded everyone you can not run III for emergency child placement. Only State Police can do that. We have the ORI for the Department of Children Services; don't get zapped by the FBI because you ran an III for emergency child placement. You cannot do it, don't do it. Kelly Digin wanted to clarify that the State Police Posts also cannot run emergency child placement III's. If you get a call, do not refer them to the Post. **The State Police Data Operations Center at Headquarters is the only place this can be done.** The Chairman stated also, that only the Investigators that DCS has identified to us as those eligible to receive the information and even then it is only for emergency placement.

Deb Cook, an IDACS Trainer, said if you have sent an operator to a class lately or if your Coordinator has not been to a class since 2003, she would suggest that you send them as soon as you can because the issue we are discussing is covered in every class that we teach, including those taught by Linda Gabbard and Donna Decker. If you are not familiar with this subject it is probably because you have not been to a class. Andre' Clark said the reason we bring this up is because we get calls, after the fact, from the Coordinator saying, my people ran a III for DCS, is it O.K.? No, it is not O.K. and you shouldn't have done it.

Andre' Clark also informed the new IDACS website is up and running. He realizes they have some adjustments they need to make; but you might want to take a look at it. It is at **in.gov/idacs.**

Deb Cook wanted to point out that a few months back, they received a memo from the FBI that asked that the trainers be sure to include in their training regarding how to send a criminal history request to a local sheriff's department for specific local or additional criminal history information. You would be surprised at the number of students, including new coordinators that didn't have a clue as to what that was. They get a message to request for additional criminal history and they throw it in the trash because they don't know what it is. This is another good reason to send people to class; if you have operators or coordinators that have not been to a class since before 2003, you really need to send them for system updates. She was asked if this could be covered in the one-day overview and she stated, yes it could be.

Another question was; can CASA folks have system information? Deb Cook said in class, they teach "no"; if a Judge wants it; it is his responsibility that he makes the secondary dissemination audit trail.

Major Shelton asked Deb Cook, when she said the FBI is sending inquiries out through NCIC about receiving disposition information on criminal arrests to a local agency? The NICS office, when someone is trying to purchase a handgun at a firearms dealer, they run a transaction. If they get a "hit" that this person has a felony arrest with no disposition, they will delay the transfer of that firearm, they won't let anybody walk out the door with it. NICS then has 72 business hours to attempt to get a disposition. Is that what this is related to? Deb Cook said it is a possibility, although there are other agencies for other reasons are also requesting local criminal record checks.

Major Shelton stated that NICS has an extensive network and responsibility and they do follow up. If there is no disposition on a felony arrest, they try to track it down, so if there is anything you can do to help them; please do so, they prevent firearms going to a convicted felon.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further questions or comments, Major Shelton made a motion to adjourn and Michael Paxton seconded the motion. The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

**The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2008, (10:00 a.m.) at the *Indianapolis State Police Post District #52, 8620 East 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN. 46219***

**Please note the quarterly meetings are now held on Wednesdays.**





New Terminal Agencies Approved

IDACS Committee Meeting September 3, 2008

**New Mobile Data Terminal Agencies**

Clarksville PD

IN0100201

Walkerton PD

IN0710301

**New Terminal Agencies**

LaPorte County Prosecutor's Office

IN046015A

